GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3335
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2007
AFFECT OF FOG ON RAIL SERVICES
Chaudhary Shri Pankaj

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether rail services have been badly affected this year also due to fog inspite of assurance given by the Railways that these services would not get affected in future;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor inspite of effective measures adopted by the Railways in this regard;

(c) whether the Railways propose to take more effective steps in this regard so that rail services are not affected due to fog; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a): Fog has been severe this year also and rail services were affected. 742 trains lost there punctuality.

(b): The speed of trains is lowered during foggy weather keeping in view the safety of running trains. At present, there is no technique ensuring normal visibility during foggy weather. However, a dependable on board train protection system can effectively improve running in foggy weather.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d): Train protection and warning system, which is a proven system, is being installed on two pilot sections for preventing signal passing at danger. ?Fog vision instrumentation? project is being developed under the ?Technology mission on Railway Safety? programme jointly by Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) and Research Design and Standard Organization. The aim of these projects is to help Driver to run trains at normal speed in foggy weather. Fog vision Instrumentation trials using ?Thermal Imager? Technique have not succeded so far. Based on success of these projects further works will be considered.